542894

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
5 August 2004 (05.08.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/066297 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G11B 20/00, H04N 1/32, G06T 1/00, H04N 7/26, H03M 13/19, 13/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB2004/050050

(22) International Filing Date: 23 January 2004 (23.01.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
03075226.5 23 January 2003 (23.01.2003) EP

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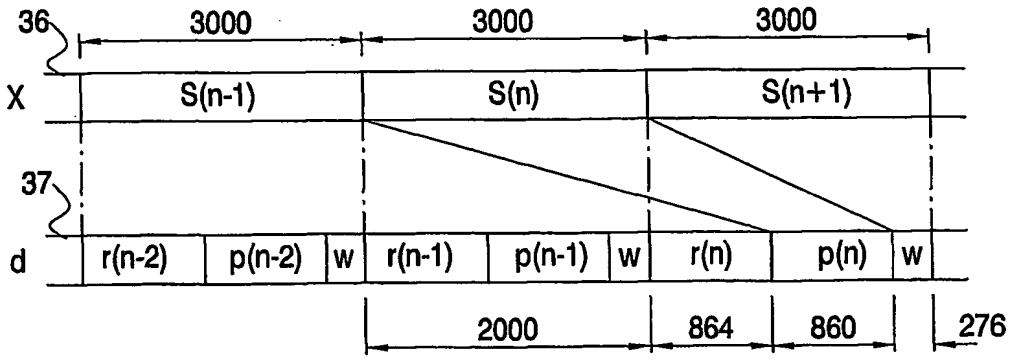
(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: LOSSLESS DATA EMBEDDING




(57) Abstract: Many methods for reversible watermarking (embedding schemes that allow perfect reconstruction of the original host signal) are highly fragile in the sense that the slightest modification of watermarked content prohibits the recovery of both the original signal as well as the embedded auxiliary data. In order to obtain robustness against transmission or channel errors, the embedding method according to the invention accommodates error correction data in a portion of the data embedding capacity. In an advantageous embodiment, the host signal (36) is segmented in segments, and error correction data (p(n)) for a segment (S(n)) is accommodated in data (37) being embedded in a subsequent segment (S(n+l)) along with restoration data (r(n)) for reconstructing the host signal. The remaining portion of the embedding capacity is used for payload (w).

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